

ABSTRACT

The present invention is related to non-parenteral multiparticulate formulations capable of transporting therapeutic, prophylactic and diagnostic agents across mucosal membranes such as gastrointestinal, buccal, nasal, rectal and vaginal. Formulations comprise a plurality of carrier particles, an agent to be delivered across a mucosal membrane, and a penetration enhancer. The drug is adhered to the surface of the carrier particle or is impregnated within by electrostatic, covalent or mechanical forces.